

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Previously Presented) A balancing circuit for voltages of a series connection of capacitors of an inverter, there being at least two intermediate circuit capacitors connected in series over intermediate circuit voltage, wherein the balancing circuit comprises capacitor-specific freely oscillating inverters, the input poles of which are connected in parallel with the capacitor corresponding to the inverter and the output poles of which are connected in parallel to provide a voltage source ( $V_a$ ), said capacitor specific freely oscillating inverters being adapted to balance the voltages of the capacitor supplied by access to energy stored therein to thereby provide voltage to the output.

2. (Currently Amended) In an inverter having at least two series connected intermediate circuit capacitors, a balancing circuit comprising:

a freely oscillating inverter for each intermediate circuit capacitor having input poles and output poles, the input poles coupled across the corresponding capacitors and the output poles being connected together in parallel for providing a voltage source, wherein the capacitor freely oscillating inverter being adapted to balance the voltages of the capacitor supplied by access to energy stored therein to thereby provide voltage to the output.